REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The specification is being amended to correct a minor spelling error therein.

Claims 1-16 have been rejected, 35 USC 102(e), as anticipated by Chu et al patent 6,263,367 (hereinafter Chu). In response thereto applicants are canceling claims 1-13, submitting new claims 17-20, and amending claims 14- 16 to be dependent on new claim 18.

The only similarity between Chu and applicants' invention is that both involve a client interacting with a server based on a refresh interval, called by Chu the client refresh period or CRP. However, applicant respectfully submits, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, that Chu is not involved with nor is his disclosure suggestive of a system for adaptive notification in a data communications network. Further, while both Chu and applicants use the term "refresh", the Chu "client refresh period" is something entirely different from and not suggestive of applicants' "refresh interval". Even though there is similarity in terminology, there is no similarity in actual meaning or in the way the Chu client refresh period and applicants' refresh interval are employed in their respective systems.

Chu and applicants are directed to different problems and different types of systems. The purpose of the Chu invention is, in effect, to lease a piece of information in a dynamic directory for period of time and for the client to renew that lease before that time period expires; note that in the Chu dynamic directory system that period of time may be very short, e.g., five or ten seconds (column 7, line 67-column 8, line 1). Chu suggests that his dynamic directory should only include clients which access the server at least once during the client refresh period for that client. As stated in the Chu abstract "clients must send a refresh message to the server every CRP in order to persist in the directory." The purpose of a dynamic directory is to allow a client to keep a directory number for a limited period of time, making sure that nobody else can have that number during that time period, but with the client losing the number unless the client renews it before the end of the allotted time period, i.e., the CRP.

A dynamic directory system is not an asynchronous adaptive notification system which serves to send information to clients that have registered with the server in the system. In applicants' invention information is distributed from the server to clients with the clients accessing the information providing server at intervals, also called refresh intervals, and which intervals are adjusted by the server.

There is nothing in the directory service of Chu which corresponds to or suggests the distribution of information, such as " the delivery of alarms to administrators in a network surveillance system" (page 2 lines 13-14 of applicants' specification).

Further in applicants' invention the refresh period determines the minimum time interval between a client's requests to the server for information and not a maximum period the server will hold the client's data.. There is nothing in applicants' invention

4

corresponding to a client losing data if it doesn't send a request to the server within the refresh period. In Chu the refresh period requires that the client take action to get a renewal before the period expires, to prevent loss of the directory number assigned to that client. In applicants' invention the refresh interval assures that the client does not come back too frequently with a request to the server for possible new information, thereby avoiding overloading the server. These are distinctly different rationales for the refresh time period or interval, and the Chu use of his refresh period bears no relationship to nor does it suggest applicants' refresh interval and its use in applicants' system.

New claim 17 clearly and patentably distinguishes from Chu by reciting , in a client-server system wherein asynchronous notifications are sent from the server to clients, the steps of storing a refresh interval for the client with the client polling the server at time intervals based on the refresh interval and the server transmitting information to the client in response to the client's polling.

New claim 18, dependent on claim 17, adds that the notification sent to the client in response to the polling includes not only the information requested but also a new or updated refresh interval to be stored in the client in place of the prior refresh interval.

Claims 14-16 and 19-20, dependent directly or indirectly on claim 17, recite different steps for the server calculating the refresh interval.

Accordingly, applicants submit that new claims 17-20 and amended dependent claims 14-16 are clearly patentably distinct from Chu. Favorable consideration and allowance of claims 17-20 and reconsideration and allowance of claims 14-16 are therefore respectfully requested.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is also requested. However, if the Examiner deems it would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone applicants' attorney at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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5